Response to Office Action of March 9, 2004 Attorney Docket No.: SOMMR-006CQUS

## Amendments to the Claims:

1-147 (Cancelled)

148. (currently amended) A latch arrangement for engaging an automotive door <u>having</u> a <u>handle</u> to a striker, comprising:

only one electric motor;

a latch bolt displaceable between a latched position at which it engages the striker and an unlatched position at which it releases the striker;

a pawl operative to selectively latch and unlatch the latch bolt;

a driving and indexing member coupled to and driven by the motor and having at least one projection extending therefrom;

at least one pawl release member selectively engageable coupled to the pawl for causing it to unlatch the latch bolt and configured to be engaged drivingly to the door handle;

at least one coupling member associated with the pawl release member and arranged to be driven by the projection selectively moveable between a locking position at which the coupling member it-disengages the pawl release member from the pawl such that movement of the pawl release member is not conveyed to the pawl, and an unlocking position at which the coupling member it-engages the pawl release member with the pawl to enable the door handle to drive the pawl release member to release the pawl from the latch bolt; and

an actuation member <u>independent of the coupling member and coupled</u> to the pawl for causing it to unlatch the latch bolt and arranged to be <u>independently</u> driven by the projection;

whereby the driving and indexing member is drivable in sequence electrically first to cause the projection to drive the coupling member to the unlocking position at which the coupling member engages engage the pawl release member with the pawl, and then, later in the sequence, to drive the actuation member to cause the pawl to unlatch the latch bolt to open the door.

149. (currently amended) The latch arrangement according to Claim 148, in which the latch bolt is selectively drivingly coupled to the driving and indexing member,

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independently of the coupling member and the actuation member, such that continued motion of the driving and indexing member in the sequence, beyond the position at which it drives the actuation member, causes it to drive the latch bolt, whereby the door may be drawn to a fully closed position under the power of the motor.

- 150. (previously presented) The latch arrangement according to Claim 148, wherein the driving and indexing member is operable selectively in two opposite directions, and the projection is operative to drive the coupling member in corresponding opposite directions to change between the locking and unlocking positions thereof.
- 151. (previously presented) The latch arrangement according to Claim 149, wherein the driving and indexing member is operable selectively in two opposite directions, and the projection is operative to drive the coupling member in corresponding opposite directions to change between the locking and unlocking positions thereof.
- 152. (currently amended) The latch arrangement according to Claim 148, wherein there are at least two projections and two corresponding coupling members associated with the respective—pawl release members, the projections being arranged to engage the corresponding coupling members at different stages of the sequence of movement of the driving and indexing member.
- 153. (currently amended) The latch arrangement according to Claim 149, wherein there are at least two projections and two corresponding coupling members associated with the respective—pawl release members, the projections being arranged to engage the corresponding coupling members at different stages of the sequence of movement of the driving and indexing member.
- 154. (currently amended) The latch arrangement according to Claim 150, wherein there are at least two projections and two corresponding coupling members associated with the respective—pawl release members, the projections being arranged to engage the corresponding coupling members at different stages of the sequence of movement of the driving and indexing member.
- 155. (previously presented) The latch arrangement according to Claim 150, in which the driving and indexing member is spring biased to a central position from which it is drivable in either direction.

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- 156. (previously presented) The latch arrangement according to Claim 148, in which the driving and indexing member is rotary so that the said projection is driven rotationally.
- 157. (currently amended) The latch arrangement according to Claim 148 152, further comprising a key-operable mechanism drivingly coupled to both of said coupling members for moving them both manually between locking and unlocking positions independently of the electric motor.
- 158. (currently amended) The latch arrangement according to Claim 148 152, further comprising a door knob-operable mechanism drivingly coupled to one of said coupling members for moving it manually between its locking and unlocking positions independently of the electric motor.
- 159. (New) The latch arrangement according to Claim 149, in which the projection is arranged to sequentially drive the latch bolt directly.
- 160. (New) The latch arrangement according to Claim 149, in which the projection is arranged to sequentially drive the at least one coupling member, the actuation member and the latch bolt respectively and independently.
- 161. (New) A latch arrangement for engaging an automotive door having a handle to a striker, comprising:

only one electric motor;

a latch bolt displaceable between a latched position at which it engages the striker and an unlatched position at which it releases the striker;

a pawl operative to selectively latch and unlatch the latch bolt;

a driving and indexing member coupled to and driven by the motor and having at least one projection extending therefrom;

at least one pawl release member selectively engageable to the pawl for causing it to unlatch the latch bolt and configured to be engaged drivingly to the door handle; and

at least one coupling member associated with the pawl release member and arranged to be driven by the projection selectively between a locking position at which the coupling member disengages the pawl release member from the pawl such that movement of the pawl release member is not conveyed to the pawl, and an unlocking position at which the coupling member engages the pawl release member with the pawl

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to enable the door handle to drive the pawl release member to release the pawl from the latch bolt;

whereby the driving and indexing member is drivable in sequence electrically to cause the projection to drive the coupling member to the unlocking position at which the coupling member engages the pawl release member with the pawl and to drive the latch bolt whereby the door may be drawn to a fully closed position under the power of the motor.